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MELANIC *PAPILIO MACHAON* LARVAE

Although melanic imagines are now well-known, being in certain species and areas even commoner than the types, melanism among larvae is not so well documented. In the colonies of *P. machaon*, L., resident around the Broads of Norfolk, England, occasional melanic imagines occur. The larva shown alongside the type above, was one of many that turned up in the offspring of a number of chrysalids sent me for breeding some years ago. From a quarter to a half of several hundred larvae were of this form. All produced normal adults. It is probably caused by a simple recessive allele, but accurate breeding results, for various reasons, were unfortunately not possible.

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